

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2005/001342

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B26D7/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B26D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | EP 0 776 740 A (BIFORCE ANSTALT) ✓ 4 June 1997 (1997-06-04) cited in the application the whole document | 1-8 |
| Y | US 2003/196871 A1 (JONES THEODORE E) ✓ 23 October 2003 (2003-10-23) abstract; figures 7-10 | 1-7 |
| Y | EP 0 398 603 A (THURNE ENGINEERING CO LTD) ✓ 22 November 1990 (1990-11-22) abstract; figure 1 | 1,3-7 |
| A | | 2,8 |
| Y | US 4 469 219 A (COSSE ET AL) ✓ 4 September 1984 (1984-09-04) figure 1 | 1,3-7 |
| A | | 2,8 |
| | -/-- | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/05/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Wimmer, M

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Y | DE 915 138 C (ERNST FUNCCIUS) ✓ 15 July 1954 (1954-07-15) figure 5 | 8 |
| X | EP 0 449 514 A (THURNE ENGINEERING CO LTD) ✓ 2 October 1991 (1991-10-02) the whole document | 9-13 |
| X | JP 60 044297 A (HOSHINO SHOJI KK) ✓ 9 March 1985 (1985-03-09) | 15,16 |
| A | figures 1-11 | 17 |
| A | JP 54 148692 A (MUKUMOTO SHIGEYUKI) ✓ 21 November 1979 (1979-11-21) the whole document | 1-17 |

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International application No.

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see supplemental sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Continuation of Box III

The International Searching Authority has found that the international application contains multiple (groups of) inventions, as follows:

1. Claims 1-8

Device and method for producing portions of food, involving means which are used to change the spacing of the slices of food. The object of the invention appears to be to ensure a particular spacing between the slices.

2. Claims 9-17

Device and method for separating slices of food, wherein the form is changed after slicing. The object of the invention appears to be to ensure that the slices of food are deposited in a particular form (e.g. folded).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/EP2005/001342

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|----|---------------------|--|--|
| EP 0776740 | A | 04-06-1997 | DE 19544764 A1 AT 213690 T DE 59608788 D1 DK 776740 T3 EP 0776740 A1 ES 2169198 T3 PT 776740 T | 05-06-1997 15-03-2002 04-04-2002 22-04-2002 04-06-1997 01-07-2002 30-08-2002 |
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| JP 54148692 | A | 21-11-1979 | US 4258530 A US 4196646 A | 31-03-1981 08-04-1980 |

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